

piece flat disk buttons, 1 embossed "Wellington/Treble Gilt", 2 porcelain 4-hole buttons, 1 black synthetic comb, 2 porcelain doll fragments, 3 kaolin pipe stem fragments, and 1 kaolin molded pipe bowl fragment.

Stratum E was Universal Stratum C first discovered during the Phase I work. This stratum is comprised of 10YR5/3 brown clay silt. A total of 591 artifacts were recovered. Architectural materials included glazed and unglazed brick, shell mortar and plaster, slate, 64 window glass fragments, 1 copper pipe fragment, 2 cut nails, 47 square shanked nails, 4 handwrought nails, and 1 handwrought spike. One English gunflint fragment represented the Arms category. Domestic/Industrial artifacts consisted of cinder, clinker, coal, and various metal fragments. Domestic artifacts included 53 bottle glass fragments, 15 of which were wine; 1 flower pot fragment; 23 lead-glazed redware sherds; 14 porcelain sherds (2 Chinese); 40 creamware sherds; 3 imitation Jackfield sherds; 145 pearlware sherds; 18 ironstone sherds; 8 whiteware sherds; 14 salt-glazed stoneware fragments, one incised; 2 annular yellow-ware bowl fragments; and 2 vessel glass fragments, 1 cut and 1 press molded. Faunal remains consisted of 86 mammal bone, 45 butchered and 1 burned; 4 pig teeth; and 1 oyster shell. Personal items included 2 bone buttons; 2 ferrous 2-piece disks; 1 slate pencil; 11 kaolin pipe stems, 9 bore holes of which measure 5/64"; and 4 kaolin pipe bowls.

Feature 24 represents a posthole and associated post (Figure 42). Church members recall a gate and fence being located in the general vicinity of the post hole. A total of 32 artifacts were recovered from Feature 24. Architectural materials consisted of brick, shell mortar, window glass, wooden post, and square shanked nails. Domestic artifacts included 1 fragment of green bottle glass, 1 fragment of handpainted porcelain, 1 creamware sherd, 4 pearlware sherd, 2 whiteware sherd, 2 redware sherd, and 1 buff bodied stoneware with circular stamp "...IVOL/...RO...". Faunal remains consisted of oyster shell, bone, and charcoal.

Feature 25 appears to be an area where the post associated with Feature 24 fell over and decayed (Figure 42). A large piece of wood, associated with Feature 24, the post, was discovered. A total of 28 artifacts were recovered. Architectural materials included slate, window glass, wooden post, and 4 square shanked nails. Domestic artifacts consisted of 1 fragment of Chinese porcelain, 2 creamware sherds, 3 pearlware sherds, 2 redware sherds, and 2 fragments of vessel glass. Fauna remains included clam shell, 2 butchered mammal bone, and 1 large mammal tooth.

C. Interpretation of Archaeological and Documentary Data - Phase I and II

1. Architecture

Architectural evidence clearly indicates that the historic church had additions to both the front and back. On the front, an extension was made toward Alfred Street extending 10 feet. On the rear, a smaller addition was made extending back from the middle of the back (west) wall. Both of these changes appear to have occurred sometime between 1877 and 1891 based on a comparison between the 1877 Hopkins map and the 1891 Sanborn map.

A large organ was located snugly on a wooden platform in this rear addition when the current renovation work began. Architectural evidence indicates, however, that the rear addition

was not originally built for the organ. Windows in the addition have been bricked in and extant paint decoration on the interior of the chancel, including a medallion on the ceiling of the chamber and a stripe around all three walls -- hidden from view after the organ was installed -- indicate this space was originally naturally lighted and decorated. It most likely was built as a chancel especially for an altar, which no doubt was moved forward slightly after the organ was installed. The "Building History" indicates that the pipe organ was added in 1926 (Robert J. Nash et al. n.d.).

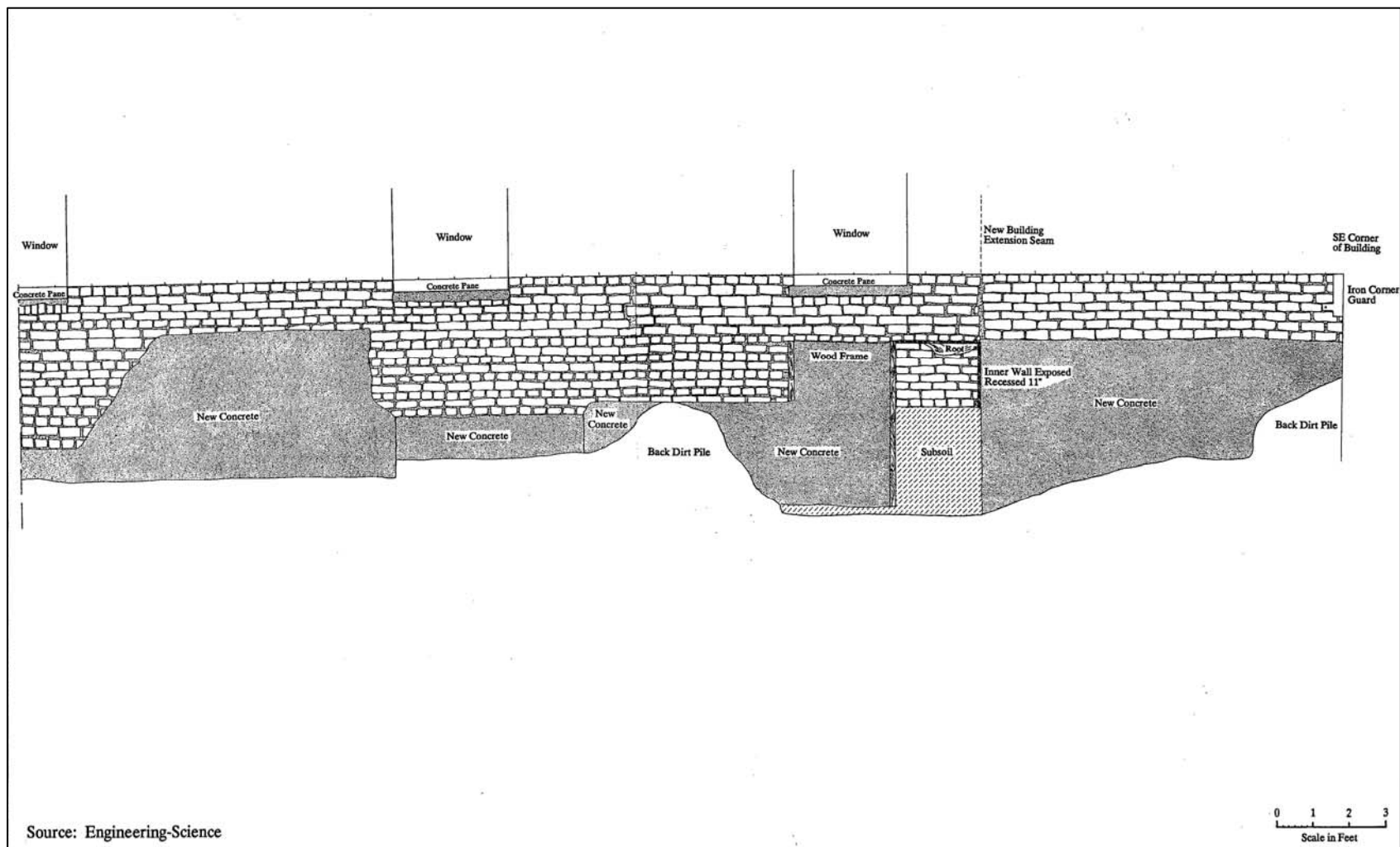
The exterior brick facing, only one course thick, is harder than the soft molded ("salmon") brick of the inner walls and foundation. This exterior brick matches the brick of the new facade. The Portland cement mortar attaching this exterior facing is much stronger than the interior mortar. It is likely that this exterior facing on the sides and back of the building was added during the major renovations which occurred during the period between 1877 and 1891 when modifications were made to the front and the rear of the structure. This brick facing gave the church a consistent exterior finish.

Architectural evidence suggests a lower level was added. This evidence consists mainly of the following: (1) seams in the exterior brick around the lower level window frames indicate that the lower level windows were not original but added (there are no structural seams around the upper level windows); and (2) segmental arches over lower level windows are different than the flat arches on the top row of windows (generally, flat arches, common to Federal style buildings are of an earlier date than the segmental arches, which in the mid-19th-century began to be favored for several styles, including Romanesque Revival.) In addition, a few wood joist ends (most have been replaced by bricks) survive in the side walls at a level intersecting lower level windows, suggesting that at some point, most likely when the floor was raised to its present location, the original floor was taken out. The lower level was probably added between 1877 and 1891 when the front and back additions also were added.

The height of the inner wall foundation, built only as tall as the present floor joists, suggests that it was built specifically for the new floor. The inner foundation wall was built at one time. It is possible that this inner wall was a previously existing foundation wall, utilized when the floor was relocated, but if the inner foundation wall originally was taller than it is now, there would have been some evidence of mortar on the top surface and no such surface exists.

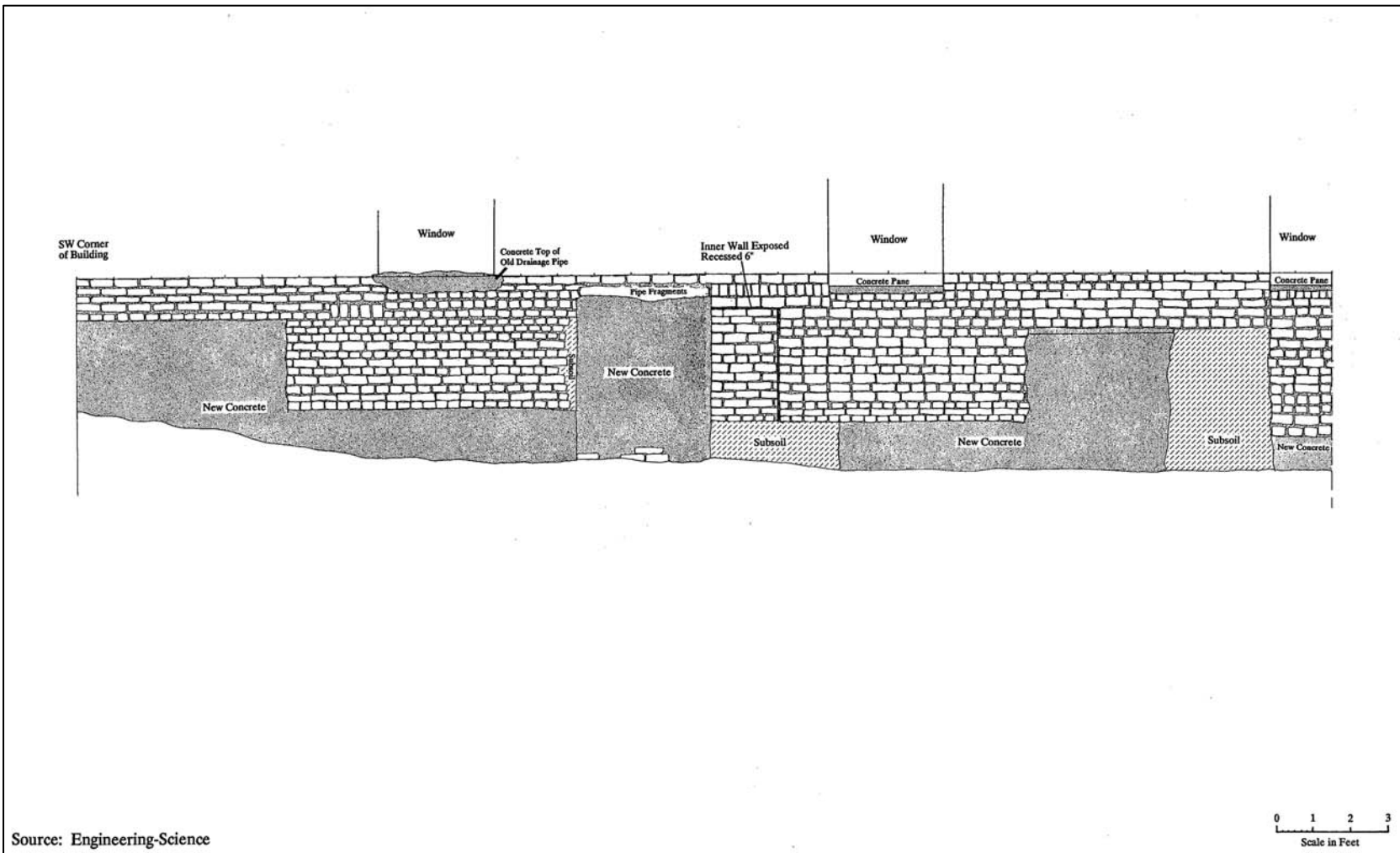
As was observed in the Phase I identification study, the foundation varied in depth. The foundation was fully exposed along the south wall and this was drawn to scale and photographed (Figures 43 and 44). The foundation undulates in a somewhat regular manner. Variation in the brickwork can be observed both on this south wall and elsewhere where the other walls were exposed. The observation in the Phase I identification study that there was an outer wall and a deeper interior wall was verified by the Phase II evaluation study. It appears that the interior wall may have been installed when the basement was excavated in 1897. The reason for the undulation of the wall remains unclear. It has been postulated that this could have been done to save brick or possibly it was thought to be a method to stabilize the foundation. The foundation was observed by several architects and architectural historians while it was open.

No evidence is present in the basement which relates to the 1836 church. The 19th-century Universal Stratum C seals the builder's trench of the church; therefore, the church predates



Alfred Street
Baptist Church

Figure 43.
Profile, South Wall, Sections 1 and 2



Alfred Street
Baptist Church

Figure 44.
Profile, South Wall, Sections 3 and 4

Universal Stratum C. The main portion of the existing brick structure most likely dates from 1855 with the front and rear additions constructed ca. 1871-91. In 1896, the basement was lowered as indicated by the inner wall.

2. *19th-Century Land Use*

Artifacts from the 19th-century stratum (Universal Stratum C) from both the Phase I identification study and the Phase II evaluation study are examined here to discover what they reveal about land use on the site. The assemblage of material recovered from this stratum is discussed by functional group (Table 5).

Table 5: Functional Groups recovered from Universal Stratum C, Both Phases

Functional Group	Frequency	Percentage
Domestic	2,222	56.9%
Architecture	980	25.1%
Faunal	461	11.8%
Other	244	6.2%
Total	3,907	100.0%

The most prevalent group present in the assemblage was domestic material, which accounted for 56.9% of the Universal Stratum C collection. The domestic material was predominantly (79%) ceramics (N=1,754), with the remaining 468 domestic artifacts being bottle glass with small amounts of lamp and vessel glass. The four major varieties of ceramic present include coarse earthenware, refined earthenware, stoneware, and porcelain. Coarse earthenware is the lowest fired ware, with a thick porous body and an unrefined paste. One-hundred-fifty-seven (157) sherds of coarse earthenware were recovered, six of which were slip decorated and all of which were redware. Nine were unglazed flowerpot fragments. The remainder are lead-glazed and probably were used in food storage or preparation. These wares are not temporally diagnostic.

Refined earthenwares represent the largest variety of ceramics found in Universal Stratum C, with a total of 1,422 sherds. These wares are more highly fired than the coarse earthenwares, but are still fairly porous. The body tends to be thinner with a more refined paste. These were usually tablewares. The range of refined earthenware types recovered and their date ranges are summarized in Table 6.

Single sherds each of Astbury (ca. 1725-1750) and tin-enamelled earthenware (ca. 1730-1830), and the four fragments of Whieldon ware (ca. 1740-1775) were the earliest identifiable ceramics recovered. Astbury, a hard, red-bodied lead glazed ware, is often associated with teawares. Tin enamelled earthenware is comprised of a soft buff body with a thick white glaze. This glaze is produced by adding tin oxide to a lead based glaze which produces an opaque glassy white surface. Whieldon ware is characterized by a creamware body with a clouded brown, green, yellow or grey glaze. Twenty-nine sherds of Jackfield (ca. 1745-1790), a thin grey or purple bodied ware with a deep black glaze, also were recovered. The end date of 1790 may be earlier than it should be because the ware type was imitated by potters into the 19th-century.

Creamware, pearlware, and whiteware form a typological continuum extending from 1762 to present (Noel Hume 1968). Creamware, patented in 1762 by Josiah Wedgwood, was a buff bodied earthenware with a yellow to greenish lead glaze. Wedgwood produced pearlware ca. 1780 by adding small amounts of cobalt to the lead glaze in an attempt to whiten it (Noel Hume 1969:128). Pearlware is characterized by a bluish glaze over a buff to white body. Whiteware gradually evolved out of pearlware in the 1820s with no observable break between the two wares (Miller 1980:2). Whiteware is still produced today. Ironstone is a more vitreous, thicker white ceramic which was first patented ca. 1800 (Miller 1991:9).

Table 6: Refined Earthenwares from Universal Stratum C, Both Phases

Type	Date Range	Frequency
Astbury	ca. 1725-1750	1
Tin Enamelled	ca. 1730-1830	1
Whieldon	ca. 1740-1775	4
Jackfield	ca. 1745-1790	29
Creamware	1762-1820	288
Pearlware	ca. 1780-1820	967
Whiteware	ca. 1820+	30
Ironstone	1800+	26
Yellow-ware	ca. 1830-1930	48
Rockingham	ca. 1830-1930	3
Redware		10
Unrecognizable		15
Total		1,422

Both yellow-ware and Rockingham were produced ca. 1830-1930 as utilitarian wares. Both wares had a buff to yellow body, with yellow-ware having a clear lead glaze, whereas Rockingham had a mottled brown glaze (Gates and Ormerod 1982; Ketchum 1983).

The unidentified refined earthenware sherds consisted of ten sherds of thin-bodied redware, and 15 ceramic spalls that were too small to identify.

Stoneware, fired at temperatures between 1200°C and 1300°C is a non-porous ceramic (Worthy 1982:335). The majority of the stoneware recovered at Alfred Street was salt-glazed, most of which could be classified as American blue-and-grey. Production of this type of ceramic in America probably began with Johan Crolus, who arrived in New York from Germany in 1718 (Myers 1977:3).

Two early refined dry-bodied stonewares also were recovered. A single fragment of black basalt (ca. 1750-1820), distinguished by its very dense black body was found in Trench 3. In the same trench, was found a fragment of Castleford (ca. 1790-1825) which has a molded decoration and distinctive translucent white body. Both ware types are associated with teawares.

Porcelains are the most highly fired ceramics with a vitreous body and glaze. Eighty-seven (87) sherds of porcelain were found. Twenty-two could be identified as Chinese imports, four of which were Canton (ca. 1800-1830). The remainder are unrecognizable.

Using the temporally diagnostic ceramics, it was possible to calculate a mean ceramic date for Universal Stratum C of 1808.67. The mean ceramic date based upon the assemblage found during the Phase I identification study was 1818.99 (Table 7) (South 1978).

Table 7: Mean Ceramic Date for Universal Stratum C, Both Phases

Ware	Date Range	Median Date	Frequency
Jackfield	ca. 1740-1780	1760	29
Astbury	ca. 1725-1750	1738	1
Tin-enamelled	ca. 1730-1830	1780	1
Black basalt	ca. 1750-1820	1785	1
Castleford	ca. 1790-1825	1808	1
Whieldon creamware	ca. 1740-1775	1755	4
Transfer-printed creamware	ca. 1765-1815	1790	1
Undecorated creamware	ca. 1762-1820	1791	285
Annular creamware	ca. 1780-1815	1798	2
Underglaze blue pearlware	ca. 1780-1820	1800	90
Blue and green edged pearlware	ca. 1780-1830	1805	90
Annular pearlware	ca. 1790-1820	1805	21
Transfer-printed pearlware	ca. 1795-1840	1818	90
Underglaze polychrome pearlware	ca. 1820-1840	1830	111
Mocha pearlware	ca. 1795-1890	1843	9
Undecorated pearlware	ca. 1780-1830	1805	566
Whiteware	ca. 1820+	1860	30
Ironstone	ca. 1813+	1857	26
Yellow-ware	ca. 1830-1930	1880	48
Rockingham	ca. 1830-1930	1880	3
Chinese porcelain	ca. 1800-1830	1815	22
Mean Ceramic Date		1808.67	

The Mean Ceramic Date is an average of the medians of ceramic date ranges (South 1978). The median date derived for each ceramic type represents the median date of manufacture. There is a "lag" between the time of manufacture and the time of deposition, when the ceramic actually is being used. Careful curation or the purchase of out-of-date styles could lead to an even greater manufacture-deposition lag. The major problem with the use of this formula on African-American sites occurs because this lag is often greater on both slave and free African-American sites (Otto 1984; Cressey 1985). This is due, in great part, to the economic position occupied by most African-Americans in the 19th-century. Slaves and free blacks often were the recipients of hand-me-down ceramics, given to them after they were no longer fashionable. These wares often were kept and used longer than they were in more affluent households. This accounts for early mean ceramic dates for African-American sites known to be later.

The 468 remaining domestic artifacts were predominantly bottle glass (N=403). Forty-four (44) of the bottle glass fragments were identifiable as blown-in-mold. Three of these had lips formed with lipping tools, which were in use from the 1820s to the 1920s (Jones and Sullivan 1985). One piece of bottle glass was produced by an automatic bottle-making machine and is datable to after 1903. This fragment appears to be intrusive as there is little else to indicate a 20th-century date for this stratum. Sixty-four (64) fragments were identifiable only as molded. It was not possible to tell whether they were produced by a machine mold or not. The mode of manufacture of the remaining 332 pieces of bottle glass was unidentifiable.

Twenty-nine (29) sherds of bottle glass were embossed, however almost all were too fragmentary to be legible. One fragment from Trench 1 is embossed "..A..Alex[andria].." showing local manufacture. Ninety sherds were wine bottle fragments and at least one was a liquor flask.

Architectural material from Universal Stratum C was comprised mainly of a sample of window glass (N=553) and brick (N=34), along with some mortar, shell plaster, and three pieces of asbestos tile, which may be intrusive. Three-hundred-twenty-three (323) nails were recovered. Thirty-one (31) of these nails were hand-wrought, sixteen (16) were cut (ca. 1790+), and one was a wire nail (ca. 1850+) (Nelson 1968). Two-hundred-fifty-seven (257) of the nails had square shanks and were either cut or hand-wrought, and the remainder are too corroded to be identified.

The third largest functional group recovered was faunal material. Two-hundred-sixty-nine (269) of the 461 faunal items were bones, 166 (62%) of which had butchery marks. Most of the butchered bone was large mammal bone (principally cow and pig), although bird bone also was represented. Almost all of the teeth recovered (N=22) appeared to be pig. The remainder of the faunal material consisted of a sample of oyster shell (n=166) and clam shell (N=4).

The remaining artifacts from Universal Stratum C consisted of one English gun flint, "personal items" such as buttons and pipes and various materials grouped as "domestic/industrial". Fifteen (15) buttons were recovered, 2 of which were bone, 2 ferrous alloy, 2 porcelain, 1 white metal and 8 copper alloy. All of the copper alloy buttons were two-piece disks and four had embossing on the back. Two also were embossed on their faces with a matching "A" cursive monogram. One copper cufflink was found embossed "PAT. PEND 1878". Other personal artifacts included 2 slate pencil fragments and kaolin pipe bowl and pipestem fragments. Twenty-eight (28) pipe bowl fragments, some of which had molded decoration and 31 pipestem fragments were found. Fifteen (15) of the stem bores measured 4/64", 14 measured 5/64" and 2 were unmeasurable. The artifacts grouped as "domestic/industrial" included unrecognizable copper and iron fragments, clinker, slag, cinders and coal.

In conclusion, Universal Stratum C is a stratum of domestic refuse and architectural debris deposited along the western extent of the lot. Its deposition appears to post-date that of the church as it overlay the builder's trench for the west wall of the church (Feature 11) identified in Test Unit 6 from the Phase I identification study. As a piece of yellow-ware was recovered from Feature 11, a terminus post quem of ca. 1830 can be assigned to the construction of the west wall and the deposition of Universal Stratum C.

The section of this yard south of the church was not acquired by the church until 1919. In 1817, there was a one-story building on the lot and the lot was occupied by free black tenants. These tenants, the Beckley family, occupied the lot until at least 1850. A building is shown on the front part of the lot on the 1865 map (Figure 4). This building was gone by 1877 (Figure 5). By 1891, another building had been constructed in the central part of the lot. It was gone by 1921, after the church's purchase of the property.

D. Summary and Conclusions

An archaeological identification survey was conducted at the historic Alfred Street Baptist Church (44AX161) in Alexandria, Virginia, by Engineering-Science in November 1991. Subsurface archaeological testing was conducted both in the interior of the historic church and in the yard area to the west and south of the church. The study area for the identification survey consisted of the original church lot, which first had been rented by the Colored Baptist Society in 1818, and the adjacent lot to the south which was acquired by the church in 1919. The work around the church foundation identified builder's trenches associated with the construction of the church and with subsequent alterations. Testing in the yard identified a buried cultural deposit datable to the early to mid-19th-century. The deposit covered a builder's trench along the west wall of the old church. The fact that the builder's trench predates the 19th-century deposit along with the date range of artifacts recovered from the trench, allow us to tentatively date the construction of the main block of the church to around the second quarter of the 19th-century. The front 10-foot section of the church and the rear addition were constructed at a later date, probably in the last decades of the 19th-century. A basement was excavated beneath the standing structure and a concrete floor was poured around the turn of the century. Inspection of the building by an architectural historian identified changes in the height of the floor above the basement after the front 10-foot section had been added. The archaeological investigations also revealed differences in the construction of the church foundation from wall to wall. The foundation walls varied in depth, thickness, and style of brickwork. These variations may represent economic measures as well as the work of different bricklayers.

Both the church and the subsurface deposits were considered to be significant for their information potential. In addition, the church is significant architecturally and for its association with one of the earliest African-American neighborhoods in Alexandria, known as the "The Bottoms" (Cressey 1985). The church would have been a focal point for this community and an important representation of the community to the wider society. The archaeology revealed unusual architectural features that may shed light on the building techniques used in the construction of the church. This work could be incorporated with wider architectural and historical research into how the construction of the church was funded, who built it (e.g., building societies), as well as the specific building techniques used.

The 19th-century deposit in the yard is significant for the information it may be able to provide on life in "The Bottoms" during the 19th-century. This deposit is probably associated with a family of free African-American tenants, the Beckleys, who occupied the lot next to the church throughout the 19th-century. The Beckley family occupied an economic position near the lowest rank of Alexandria society. There is little historical documentation available on this segment of